



USDA
National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report



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South
Carolina
State
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Office



Week Ending April 8, 2007

(SC-CW001407)

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GENERAL

Nearly all of South Carolina is continuing to experience below average precipitation for the year. Soil moisture conditions were dry from lack of significant rainfall. Temperatures at record and near record lows throughout the state over the weekend, caused significant damage to many field, fruit and vegetable crops. Dry conditions produced a State average of 6.5 days that were suitable for field work. Soil moisture is 17% very short, 46% short, 35% adequate, and 2% surplus.

FIELD CROPS

Heavy frost and cold temperatures in most areas caused burning to most of the corn crop and hurt much of the tobacco acreage set in the fields. **CORN** was 67% planted and 45% emerged. **TOBACCO** transplanting continued with 15% of plants set. **OATS** were 28% headed. The cold temperatures and dry conditions have compounded problems for this crop and other small grains. **WINTER WHEAT** was 11% headed, and continued to lag behind last year and the five year average.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were fair to mostly good. **PASTURE** conditions were mostly fair, but range from poor to good. **VEGETABLE** planting has been well under way so some crops may have extensive damage due to temperatures being well below normal; for most crops damage estimates are still being investigated. Wide spread damage has been reported on this years peach crop. Damage assessments are currently underway by growers and extension personnel and we should know more about the peach crop status by next week's report. **PEACH** condition is 45% very poor, 25% poor, 20% fair and 10% good, with the poor condition due primarily to the freezing temperatures this past weekend.

Crop Progress for Week Ending April 8, 2007

Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2007	2006	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantalopes, Planted	40	43	39	Sorghum, Planted	4	4	6
Corn, Planted	67	58	53	Tobacco, Transplanted	15	15	13
Corn, Emerged	45	32	24	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted	50	63	60
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	20	37	49	Watermelons, Planted	55	42	42
Oats, Headed	28	17	22	Winter Wheat, Headed	11	14	16
Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	45	43	41				

Condition for Week Ending April 8, 2007

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantalopes	0	22	45	33	0	Peaches	45	25	20	10	0
Corn	0	30	40	30	0	Snapbeans	20	30	50	0	0
Cucumbers	20	30	50	0	0	Tomatoes	0	50	50	0	0
Livestock	0	2	40	56	2	Watermelons	0	22	45	33	0
Oats	1	5	53	39	2	Winter Wheat	1	2	47	48	2
Pasture	2	18	51	29	0						

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 9, 2007

Bright, sunny weather and upper 80-degree warmth was observed early in the week. Tuesday’s afternoon heating joined with a thermal boundary just inland from the coastal waters near Alvin, S.C. in Berkeley County to produce 45 thousand foot thunderstorm cloud tops and two-inch diameter hail. A few isolated locations received welcomed, yet light amounts of rain over dry soils. On Thursday, a lengthy period of cold air advection began to overspread the state. Shortly after midnight Saturday, the National Weather Service in Greer reported snowflakes. The modified Arctic-origin air with record cold and threats to early season farm operations peaked on Sunday morning. Columbia’s low of 26 degrees Sunday morning tied the record for their lowest ever April temperature. Mostly sunny, blue skies ended the first full week of April 2007 but out of doors activities likely required heavier clothing due to the unusually cold airmass. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 88 degrees at Jamestown on April 2. The lowest official temperature reported was 17 degrees at Pelion on the morning of April 8. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.25 inches at Jamestown ending at 7:00 a.m. on April 4. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.1 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 64 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 60 degrees.

Precipitation			
Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.06	10.96	-4.0
Columbia	0.00	9.20	-4.8
Orangeburg	0.00	8.78	-5.3
Charlotte, NC	0.00	10.66	-2.2
Augusta, GA	0.02	8.21	-5.9
Florence	0.00	6.34	-5.6
Myrtle Beach	0.00	6.84	-4.9
Charleston	0.03	7.12	-4.9
Savannah, GA	0.00	6.60	-4.9

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.

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